Fieldwork and Emotional Economies on the Streets of Java

Fieldwork is a continuous negotiation and reflection of positionalities. Ethnographers’ emotional involvements and affective practices are part and parcel of anthropological practice to the same extent as presumably detached methodologies that try to discipline them. This talk illustrates that researchers’ affects can unfold robust epistemological qualities. Based on long-term research with street-related communities in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, between 2001 and 2015 I discuss affects and emotions in fieldwork encounters as complementary epistemologies of anthropological knowledge construction.